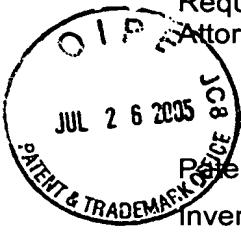


Patent No. 6,855,215
Request for Cert. of Correction dated July 21, 2005
Attorney Docket No. 1217-012124

10/018989

DefC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. : 6,855,215 B2 Confirmation No. 2579
Inventors : Kushida et al.
Issued : February 15, 2005
Title : Tableware and Method for Surface Treatment
Thereof, Substrate Having Hard Decorative Coating
Film and Method for Production Thereof
Examiner : Daniel Jenkins
Customer No. : 28289

Certificate
JUL 29 2005
of Correction

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION OF PATENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: Decision and Certificate of Correction
Branch of the Patent Issue Division

Sir:

In accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§254 and 255, we attach hereto Form PTO/SB/44 and a copy of proof of errors and request that a Certificate of Correction be issued in the above-identified patent. The following errors appear in the patent as printed:

- (1) Title Page, [22] PCT Filed: "Jul. 3, 2001" should read -- March 7, 2001 --.
(See Application Transmittal Letter, Request for Corrected Filing Receipt of April 10, 2002 and Corrected Filing Receipt mailed May 24, 2002.)
- (2) Column 56, Lines 61-62, Claim 16, "claim and" should read --claim 14,
wherein in the heating step, the vacuum chamber is evacuated --
(See Application, page 149, Claim 15, Lines 1-2.)
- (3) Column 60, Line 4, Claim 43, "chamberto" should read -- chamber to --.
(See Preliminary Amendment of 12/19/2001, page 8, Claim 43, Line 3.)
(Application Page 14 Claim 21 Line 8)

Error No. 3 is an obvious typographical error made by Applicant. A check for \$100.00 is attached to cover the fee for correction of Applicant's mistakes. The remaining errors are printing errors.

Respectfully submitted,

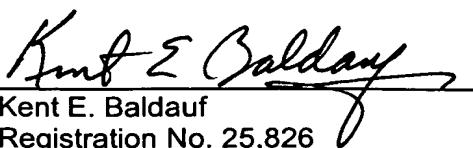
THE WEBB LAW FIRM

07/27/2005 WASFAW2 00000161 6855215

01 FC:1811

100.00 OP

By


Kent E. Baldauf

Registration No. 25,826
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700 Koppers Building
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Facsimile: (412) 471-4094

AUG 01 2005

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,855,215 *B2*

DATED : February 15, 2005

INVENTOR(S) : Kushida et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Title Page, [22] PCT Filed: "Jul. 3, 2001" should read -- March 7, 2001 --.

Column 56, Lines 61-62, Claim 16, "claim and" should read --claim 14,
 wherein in the heating step, the vacuum chamber is evacuated --

Column 60, Line 4, Claim 43, "chamberto" should read -- chamber to --.

{W0202361.1}

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

The Webb Law Firm
 700 Koppers Building
 436 Seventh Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1845

PATENT NO. 6,855,215 *B2*

No. of additional copies



This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

AUG 01 2005

Form PTO-1390 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (REV 10-95)		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 1217-012124
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP01/01773	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 07.03.01 (March 07, 2001)	PRIORITY DATES CLAIMED 19.04.2000 and 04.09.2000
TITLE OF INVENTION TABLEWARE, PROCESS FOR SURFACE TREATMENT THEREOF, SUBSTRATE HAVING HARD DECORATIVE COATING FILM, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SUBSTRATE, AND CUTLERY		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Hachiro KUSHIDA, Yutaka FUKUMURA and Yukio MIYA		
<p>Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date. 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). <p>Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. WO 01/79004-Front Page with Abstract and Search Report (3 pp.) 		

PATENT APPLICATION
Serial No. 10/018,989
Attorney Docket 1217-012124

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit 1742

In re application of

Hachirou KUSHIDA et al.

Serial No. 10/018,989

Filed December 19, 2001

TABLEWARE AND METHOD FOR
SURFACE TREATMENT THEREOF,
SUBSTRATE HAVING HARD
DECORATIVE COATING FILM
AND METHOD FOR PRODUCTION
THEREOF, AND CUTLERY

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
April 10, 2002

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Office of Initial Patent Examination
Customer Service Center
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached is a copy of the official filing receipt received from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above application for which issuance of a corrected filing receipt is respectfully requested.

The data regarding the Domestic Priority should read as follows:

THIS APPLICATION IS A 371 OF PCT/JP01/01773 03/07/2001

The title should be corrected to read as follows:

**Tableware and method for surface treatment thereof, substrate having
hard decorative coating film and method for production thereof, and cutlery**

A copy of the filing receipt with the requested corrections indicated thereon is attached hereto.

Please issue a corrected filing receipt.

Respectfully submitted,

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON
ORKIN & HANSON, P.C.

By



Kent E. Baldauf, Reg. No. 25,826

Attorney for Applicants

700 Koppers Building

436 Seventh Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1818

Telephone: 412/4718815

Facsimile: 412/471-4094



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/018,989	12/19/2001	1742	1850	1217-012124	28	50	8

CONFIRMATION NO. 2579

FILING RECEIPT



OC000000007594289

Russell D Orkin
 700 Koppers Building
 436 Seventh Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1818

Date Mailed: 03/07/2002

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Hachirou Kushida, Tokyo, JAPAN;
 Yutaka Fukumura, Tokyo, JAPAN;
 Yukio Miya, Tokyo, JAPAN;

RECEIVED
 WEBB, ZIESENHEIM, LOGSDON
 ORKIN, & HANSON PC

MAR 13 2002

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

THIS APPLICATION IS A 371 OF PCT/JP01/01773 07/03/2001

03/07/2001

Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2000-117390 04/19/2000
 JAPAN 2000-266607 09/04/2000

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Security Review

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

surface
 Tableware and method for *surface* treatment thereof, substrate having hard decorative coating film and method for production thereof, and cutlery



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/018,989	12/19/2001	1742	1850	1217-012124	28	50	8

Russell D Orkin
700 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1818

CONFIRMATION NO. 2579
CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT



OC000000008182528

Date Mailed: 05/24/2002

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Hachirou Kushida, Tokyo, JAPAN;
Yutaka Fukumura, Tokyo, JAPAN;
Yukio Miya, Tokyo, JAPAN;

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

THIS APPLICATION IS A 371 OF PCT/JP01/01773 03/07/2001

Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2000-117390 04/19/2000
JAPAN 2000-266607 09/04/2000

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 05/23/2002

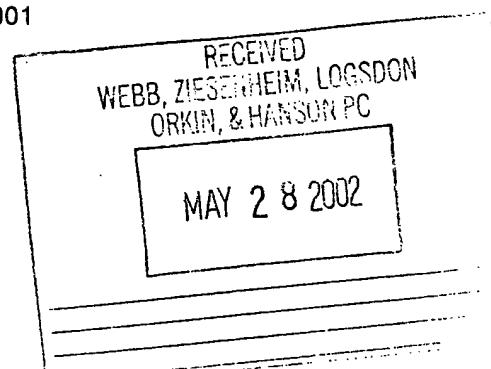
Projected Publication Date: 08/08/2002

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Tableware and method for surface treatment thereof, substrate having hard decorative coating



DESCRIPTION

Amd312

**Tableware and Method For Surface Treatment Thereof,
Substrate Having Hard Decorative Coating Film and
Method For Production Thereof**

1 TABLEWARE, PROCESS FOR SURFACE TREATMENT THEREOF, SUBSTRATE

**5 HAVING HARD DECORATIVE COATING FILM, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING
THE SUBSTRATE, AND CUTLERY**

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

PK

TECHNICAL FIELD

10 The present invention relates to tableware (cutter, and ^{or flatware}, as well as related serving pieces cutlery such as knife, fork and spoon) and a process for surface treatment of the tableware. More particularly, the invention relates to titanium or titanium alloy tableware the surface of which has been hardened by surface treatment, and a process 15 for surface treatment of the tableware.

The present invention further relates to a substrate having a hard decorative coating film and a process for producing the substrate. Particularly, the invention relates to a substrate, such as a camera body, a cellular telephone body, 20 a portable radio body, a video camera body, a lighter body, a personal computer main body or the like, more particularly a substrate having a hard decorative coating film, specifically, a substrate having an internal hardened layer formed on its surface and a hard decorative coating film formed on a surface 25 of the internal hardened layer, and a process for producing the substrate.

pp
a cooling step wherein the titanium or titanium alloy tableware is cooled to room temperature after the hardening treatment step, and

5 a polishing step wherein the tableware is polished after the cooling step.

10 15. The process for surface treatment as claimed in claim 14, wherein in the heating step, the vacuum chamber is evacuated and heating is carried out under reduced pressure.

10

16. The process for surface treatment as claimed in claim 14, wherein in the heating step, the vacuum chamber is evacuated, then an inert gas is introduced into the vacuum chamber to adjust the pressure to atmospheric pressure, and heating is 15 carried out at atmospheric pressure.

20
25

17. The process for surface treatment as claimed in claim 14, wherein in the cooling step, the vacuum chamber is highly evacuated to remove the mixed gas containing nitrogen as a main component and an oxygen component, and cooling is carried out under vacuum.

25

18. The process for surface treatment as claimed in claim 14, wherein in the cooling step, the vacuum chamber is highly evacuated to remove the mixed gas containing nitrogen as a main component and an oxygen component, then an inert gas is introduced into the vacuum chamber to adjust the pressure to

PATENT APPLICATION/PCT
Attorney Docket No. 1217-012124

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hachirou KUSHIDA : TABLEWARE, PROCESS FOR SURFACE
Yutaka FUKUMURA : TREATMENT THEREOF, SUBSTRATE
Yukio MIYA : HAVING HARD DECORATIVE COATING
FILM, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE
SUBSTRATE, AND CUTLERY

International Application :
No. PCT/JP01/01773

International Filing Date :
07 March 2001

Priority Dates Claimed :
19 April 2000
04 September 2000

Serial No. Not Yet Assigned :

Filed Concurrently Herewith :

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
December 19, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert, amend and delete section headings and amend specification
paragraphs as follows.

On page 1, at line 8, please insert the following section heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

washing the substrate,
placing the substrate in a vacuum chamber and evacuating the vacuum chamber,
introducing argon into the vacuum chamber, ionizing the argon and ion
bombarding the substrate surface,
forming by sputtering an intermediate layer comprising a metal or a metallic
carbide on the substrate surface,
exhausting the argon the vacuum chamber and introducing a gas containing
carbon into the vacuum chamber, and
generating a plasma in the vacuum chamber and forming by plasma CVD
treatment a diamond-like carbon coating film on the surface of the intermediate layer.

Please amend claim 43 as follows:

43. A process for producing a substrate having a hard decorative coating film,
comprising:

heating a substrate comprising titanium or a titanium alloy in a vacuum chamber
3 to anneal the substrate,

hardening the substrate by introducing a mixed gas containing nitrogen as a main
component and an oxygen component into the vacuum chamber, and heating the vacuum
chamber to a temperature of 700 to 800°C for a given period of time under given reduced
pressure to diffuse nitrogen and oxygen inside the titanium or titanium alloy substrate from the
surface so as to form a solid solution,

cooling the titanium or titanium alloy substrate to room temperature,

polishing a surface of the substrate,

washing the substrate,

placing the substrate in a vacuum chamber and evacuating the vacuum chamber,